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STATE OF WISCONSIN

BEFORE THE SOCIAL WORKER SECTION

EXAMINING BOARD OF SOCIAL WORKERS, MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS AND PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS

IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY

PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

Case No. LS9902102SOC

CATHERINE PAMELA KING, CSW

RESPONDENT.

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

The parties to this action for the purposes of Wis. Stats. sec. 227.53 are:

*Catherine Pamela King
5080 Larkspur Drive
Rockford, IL 61107*

*Social Worker Section
Wisconsin Examining Board of Social Workers,
Marriage & Family Therapists and Professional Counselors
PO Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935*

*Department of Regulation and Licensing
Division of Enforcement
PO Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935*

The parties in this matter agree to the terms and conditions of the attached Stipulation as the final decision in this matter, subject to the approval of the Section. The Section has reviewed this Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Section in this matter adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Catherine Pamela King, Respondent, date of birth January 9, 1949, was certified by the Social Worker Section as a social worker in the state of Wisconsin, pursuant to certificate number 1711, which was first granted October 26, 1993.
2. Respondent was granted certification pursuant to the grandparenting provisions of 1991 Act 160, §21(2)(a)2, based upon her having been employed as a social worker at some time between May 1, 1992 and April 30, 1993.
3. Respondent was conferred a bachelors of arts degree in 1972 by Marquette University. Respondent does not have a degree in social work.
4. Respondent's last address reported to the Department of Regulation and Licensing is 5080 Larkspur Drive, Rockford, IL 61107.

5. Respondent has not renewed her certificate since it expired on July 1, 1995, but could renew it pursuant to § 440.08(3)(a), Stats. and Wis. Adm. Code § SFC 1.08(2) by payment of fees.
6. From approximately October 2, 1989 to November 29, 1994, Respondent was employed by the Rock County Human Services Department as a social worker.
7. On November 29, 1994, the Rock County Human Services Department, Respondent's employer, terminated Respondent's employment for cause.
8. Rock County Human Services Department contends that the termination of Respondent's employment was based upon Respondent's:
 - a. Incompetence in the provision of social services;
 - b. Incompetence in the maintenance of case records;
 - c. Provision of false information to a police officer;
 - d. Failure to correct false information contained in a police report;
 - e. Provision of contradictory, misleading and incorrect information to the Child Protective Services Manager throughout the investigation of the other causes listed in this paragraph.
9. Respondent contends that her conduct which resulted in the termination of her employment at Rock County Human Services Department was caused by a medical condition. Respondent contends that she had an intracranial arteriovenous malformation, which caused her thought process, judgment and memory to deteriorate and had an adverse impact on her ability to function in her job as a social worker.
10. Respondent has agreed to voluntarily surrender her right to renew her certification as a social worker in Wisconsin, with the conditions set out below.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Social Worker Section has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to sec. 457.26, Stats.
2. The Social Worker Section has authority to enter into this stipulated resolution of this matter pursuant to sec. 227.44(5), Stats.
3. The Respondent, by practicing as a social worker while impaired as the result of an illness which impaired her ability to appropriately carry out her job functions, is subject to discipline pursuant to § 457.26(2)(h), Stats., and Wis. Adm. Code § SFC 20.02(9).
4. The Respondent's conduct, as set out in finding of fact 8, constitutes gross negligence in the practice of social work and subjects Respondent to discipline pursuant to § 457.26(2)(h), Stats., and Wis. Adm. Code § SFC 20.02(22).

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. That the surrender by Catherine Pamela King of her right to renew her certification as a social worker in the state of Wisconsin is hereby accepted, effective immediately.
- 2 That if Catherine Pamela King shall ever apply for any certification from the Wisconsin Social Worker Section:
 - a. She shall be required to meet all requirements for that certification which are then required by statute and administrative rule, prior to being certified.
 - b. She shall provide proof sufficient to the Section that she does not suffer from any medical or psychological condition which impairs her ability to function as a social worker.
 - c. The decision whether to grant Respondent certification, with or without limitations, shall be in the sole discretion of the Section.

The rights of a party aggrieved by this Decision to petition the Section for rehearing and to petition for judicial review are set forth on the attached "Notice of Appeal Information".

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin this 10th day of January, 1999.

Cornelia Hempe, Chairperson

Social Worker Section